

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-20 are canceled, and claims 21-35 are added. Claims 21-35 are now pending in this application.

**I. Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph**

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

The Office Action contends that "It is not clear what the structural relationship is between, composite growth-assisting substrate, the main compound semiconductor layer, residual substrate portion and bulk composed of GaAs single crystal," as recited in claims 1-20.

By this Response, claims 1-20 are canceled and new claims 21-35 submitted. Specific reference is made to method claim 26, which delineates, *inter alia*:

...  
removing the separation-assisting compound semiconductor layer by chemical etching, to separate the substrate bulk from the sub-substrate, the sub-substrate separated from the substrate bulk being a residual substrate portion on the second main surface of the main compound semiconductor layer, the residual substrate portion having a first main surface and a second main surface; ...

Claim 26 clearly delineates the sub-substrate separated from the substrate bulk (by removing the separation-assisting compound semiconductor layer by chemical etching) being a residual substrate portion on the second main surface of the main compound semiconductor layer.

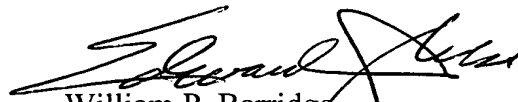
Because claims 21-35 are believed to recite the invention with the degree of precision and particularity required by the statute, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully solicited.

**II. Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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